

METHOD FOR PERMITTING DEBUGGING AND TESTING OF SOFTWARE ON A MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICE IN A SECURE ENVIRONMENT

5

Abstract Of The Disclosure

A developer (102) develops a software application (204) which needs to be tested or debugged, or both. To eliminate the need to either intentionally compromise the security environment of the target portable device, or having to request a certificate for each version of the software under development, the developer obtains a development certificate (208). The development certificate includes a device identifier unique to the particular portable device on which the software is to be tested, and some development parameter. The target device uses these two pieces of data to determine if the software is valid, and executable. If either of these pieces of data are not valid, the security mechanism of the target device will disable the software, or otherwise refuse to permit it to execute. The developer signs the software with the development certificate, and then loads the signed software onto the target device, which then authenticates the developer's signature and development certificate.